Numb. 13.

Heraclitus Ridens,

AT

A DIALOGUE between *JEST* and *EARNEST* Concerning the *TIMES*.

From Saturday, September the 11*th*, to Tuesday the 14*th*. 1703.

JEST. THese Citizens are the moſt perverſe Creatures in the Land of the Living. A Man might lie with their Wives and run away with their Daughters, in leſs time than he can beat any Opinion into their Noddles that has been the leaſt diffus'd, and put out of Practice. I thought to have run down every Mothers-ſon with the Arguments you gave me laſt *Saturday*, but was threaten'd with a Juſtice of the Peace, and the Compter for my Pains.

Earn. That muſt be a rare Sort of a Juſtice, and one of the Calves Head Edition, who would take you to Task for Speaking Truth.

Jeſt. Truth, ſay you? Keep your Truths to your Self, if you would have me Sleep in a whole Skin. Heav'ns bleſs me! Had you ſeen how I was Worry'd yeſterday at the *Swan* over againſt the *Royal Exchange*, you would have had a greater Concern for me, than to think of making me a Miſſionary any more. This is a Special Rogue, cry'd Sir *Harry Transfer*, the *Eaſt-India* Merchant, to Preach up this Doctrine at this time of Day. I'll lay Five to Four he's ſome *Romiſh* Prieſt or other. *The King can do no Wrong*! There's a Maxim indeed—— I my ſelf know to the Contrary, for I have loſt many a Wager by King *William*, who did me Wrong by letting me loſe it.

Earneſt. This is like the reſt of that worthy Knight's Arguments. He will bring in himſelf ſome way or other, whatſoever Breach he makes either of Good Manners or Senſe; like a Quack Doctor, that always comes off with a *Probatum eſt*, and cries I know it by Experience, when his Knowledge (generally ſpeaking) reach'd no farther than the End of his *Laſt* or *Needle*.

Jeſt. This Worthy Gentleman ſat encompaſs'd with Maſters of Ships, and the Noble Captains, as they call one another, ſtar'd at me as if they would Eat me. Slife, you little Urchin, ſaid one, I'll Cram a Cartridge of Powder down your Throat, and turn you Keel upward, ſpeak a word more that our Noble Owner diſlikes; and was immediately back'd by another, whoſe Carbuncle Face ſupply'd the Place of a Lanthorn to his Ship in the night-time, and who propos'd that Two ſhould ſtand on the Larboard ſide of the Carpet, and Two on the Starboard, and ſhake me ſo as if it was *High Sea* with me.

Earn. I can but think how ſimply you Look'd in the mean time. Prithee how came you off?

Jeſt. As well as my Legs could carry me, I made but a Step of one Pair of Stairs, for I found there was no Jeſting with ſuch Edge Tools as thoſe Sailors, and I was in a Minute among our Acquaintance at the *Popes-Head*.

Earneſt. This has ſpoil'd your Longing for more Authorities and Records? You are a fit Man indeed to be of a Party, to give up the Cauſe for ſuch an Accident as that. You muſt meet with many before we can get Ground; and thoſe that lay Siege to Strong Towns, muſt not expect 'em to Surrender upon the firſt Summons. You muſt firſt make a Breach, and ſtand Reſolutely prepar'd for a Storm, before thoſe within will be Induc'd to Beat the Chamade. What think you of farther Proofs, to make Apparent to the World, how extenſive the Royal Authority is, and how far the Branches of the Crown's Prerogative ſpread themſelves.

Jeſt. I know not what to ſay to it——I am a Strange Lover of Indolence, and Things that are any ways Dangerous are not very Aggreeable to my Conſtitution. It cannot be deny'd, that while We ſtand up by the Rights of the Monarchs of *England*, We Aſſert the Prerogatives of Queen of *Ann*; but I am afraid ſome People will be apt to ſay, We call in Queſtion the late Revolution by ſo doing.

Earn. Let 'em make what Remarks they pleaſe, We muſt be Safe under the Wings of a Government we Write in Defence of; and to make you a thorough Convert, as well as Convince others of their due Obedience to Princes, and that we are not to Circumſcribe their Power within the Peoples, I ſhall go on with my Diſcourſe.

Jeſt. As long as you Stand by Queen *Ann*, I hold my ſelf Contented; for She is my Queen as well as Mr. *Obſervators*, and my Sword ſhall be as Active in Defending Her Majeſties juſt Rights, as his *Oaken Towell* ſhall be in Endeavouring to Leſſen them. Let the *Whigs* ſay what they pleaſe, *Tu ne cede Malis ſed contra Audacior ito*, is my Motto; and Brandiſh your Acts of Parliament, Boy, Let us ſee whether they will be Quotation Proof, everlaſtingly.

Earneſt. If you remember in your laſt, you gave me to underſtand that you were fully Satisfy'd

tisfy'd, in what Proofs I brought you, to make it appear, That *the King can do no Wrong*. What remains is to ſet up a Doctrine which has been Exploded and flung out of Doors of late, which is that of *Obedience* and *Non-Reſiſtance*.

Jeſt. Certainly you are not mad. Dr. *Sh---* will be upon your Back, and Biſhop *Overal's* Book will fly about your Ears like ſo many Squibs or Rockets.

Earn. That's the leaſt of my Fears; I know how to make Dr. *Sh*—— Anſwer Dr. *Sh*——. if he does. He underſtands *Pro* and *Con* to a Tittle, and I can ſoon make it appear that I have Read the beſt Book he ever Wrote in his Life, which was in Eavour of the Doctrine which he ſince flew from. But to return to the Purpoſe; If Kings can do no Wrong, then they are not Accountable to their People; and if not Accountable to their People, not to be Reſiſted by them.

Jeſt. You muſt make it out Categorically, or ſome body will be upon the Back of you. That's no Syllogiſm.

Earneſt. But it's true, as *Ben Johnſon* ſaid to his Friend *Silveſter*. And to make it appear ſo, Conſult the Letters between *Henderſon* and the Royal Martyr. *Hend*. 2d Paper. *Sect*. 8. has it thus:

Altho' *Prayers and Tears be the Arms of the Church*; yet it is neither Acceptable to God, nor Conducible for Kings and Princes, to force *the Church to put on theſe Arms*: Nor could I ever hear a Reaſon, why a neceſſary Defenſive War againſt unjuſt Violence is unlawful, altho' it be join'd with Offence and Invaſion, which is intended for Defence, but ſo that Arms are laid down, when the Offenſive War ceaſeth; By which it doth appear, That War on the other ſide, was, in the Nature thereof, Defenſive.

The Royal Martyr's *Third Paper, thus*;

Sect. 8. And for your Defenſive War; As I do acknowledge it a great Sin for any King to oppoſe the Church, ſo I hold it abſolutely unlawful for Subjects (upon any Pretence whatſoever) to make War (tho' Defenſive) againſt their lawful Sovereign, againſt which, no leſs Proofs will make me yield, but *God's Word*.

By the Statute of 12. *Car*. 2. cap. 30. It is Declared, *That no Authority, no ſingle Perſon, no Community of Perſons, not the People Collectively, or Repreſentatively, have any Coercive Power over the King of* England.

By the Statute of 25. *E*. 3. *cap*. 2. It is Declared, without exempting any manner of Caſes, or Pretences to the Contrary, That *to levy War againſt our Lord the King in this Realm, or to be adherent to the King's Enemies in his Realm, giving them Aid, or Comfort in the Realm, or elſewhere*, is Treaſon. And *Coke* upon the Place, ſaith, That this was High-Treaſon before, by the Common Law; For no Subject can levy War within the Realm, without Authority from the King. *Co*. 3. *Juſt*. *fol*. 9.

It is ſo provided by the Laws of almoſt all Nations, That no War be made but by Authority of Him, who hath the Supream Power in any Country. Such a Law we find extant in *Plato*, namely, *Si quis privatim ſine publico conſilio, pacem, Bellumve fecerit Capitale eſto*. And by the *Roman* Laws, He that Liſts Soldiers, or Muſters an Army, without Warrant from his Prince, is a Traytor. *D*. 48. 4. 3. There is an Antient Conſtitution extant in the Code of *Juſtinian*, made by *Valentinianus*, and *Valens*, which runs thus; Let no Man preſume to raiſe an Army without ſpecial Warrant, or to make War without Our Knowledge, and Advice. *Cod*. 11. 46. *l*. *unic*.

In the *7th* year of *E*. 1. A Statute was made, wherein *The King of* England's *Power over the Militia is acknowledged, and force of Armour to belong to him*.

It is Declared by 13. *Car*. 2. *cap*. 6. *That the Sole Supream Government, Command, and the Diſpoſition of the Militia, and of all Forces by Sea and Land, and of all Forts, and Places of Strength, is, and by the Laws of* England, *ever was the undoubted Right of His Majeſty and His Royal Predeceſſors, and that both, or either of the Houſes of Parliament cannot, or ought to pretend to the ſame; nor can, nor lawfully may raiſe, or levy any War, Offenſive or Defenſive, againſt His Majeſty, His Heirs, and lawful Succeſſors*. This is a Statute that cuts off all Popular Pretences of Defenſive War. Behold here the Doctrine of *Non-Reſiſtance* in its full Amplitude, Declared by Act of Parliament.

Jeſt. Thou deſerv'ſt the Thanks of the Church for this Collection of thine, and not a Veſtry in Town that would ſtand up for the Cauſe of the Eſtabliſh'd Religion but ſhould give them thee; and a hundred to one but this Lecture of thine is a Broken-head in my Way, at my next Appearance at the *Swan*. However, I am reſolv'd to be Valiant, and out with what I have learn'd, whatſoever comes of it.

Earn. Have you nothing to give me by way of Requital? No News ſtirring in the City when you were laſt there.

Jeſt. Yes truly, and very good, the Church Party has carry'd the Day, and we are no longer to be Diſcontented and out of Humour on account of the Strength of the *Diſſenters*. We know their utmoſt by their laſt Struggle, and I hope this may be a happy Preſage of a good Election next *Michaelmas Day*.

Earneſt. What Struggle is this you talk of? I am in a State of Darkneſs as to the Knowledge of it.

Jeſt. You are poring over Statutes, forſooth, when you ſhould be a Merry-making. Sir *Edw*. *Clark* being dead, there was an Alderman's place vacant for the *Bread-ſtreet* Ward, and the two Contending Parties ſet up each of 'em 2 Candidates; but after the *Diſſenters* had done all they could, ſent Poſt-horſes for abſent Inhabitants, and been at the Dee'l and all of Charges and Pains, Sir *Richard Hoar* and Sir *Francis Daſhwood*, were made Choice of; and after a Scrutiny demanded, ſix fault Voices were found on the ſide of the Church, and *Ten* on the Coventicles.

Earn. This is Excellent News indeed. Heav'ns continue this Advantage to us, we have one Friend more than we had in the Court of Aldermen. I have ſome more *Queries* on this Occaſion, which I'll give you at our next Meeting.

ADVERTISEMENT.

BRought over *from the* Grand Seignior's *Dominions lately, A* Peloponeſian Anthropophagus, *a Monſter that will Swallow Ten Men, one after another, and Drink a Tun of* Derby-Ale *for a Mornings Draught afterwards. He has the Downfall of* Popery *fore-told in* Greek *Characters at the bottom of his Feet, Has* Mahomet's *Standard torn in Pieces by the* German Eagle *in his Forehead. His Head and Feet much reſemble thoſe of a Bear, and the reſt of his Body is after the Likeneſs of a Man's, and he ſhews ſuch Tricks with a* Slipper, *which is one of thoſe that the* Turkiſh *Prophet Travell'd to* Mecca *in, as will Amaze all that ſhall ſee him. For the Benefit of the young Students at* Gray's *Inn, He is to be ſeen at the* Red-Cow *in* Fullwood's-Rents. *Shewing the Wonderful Performance for the ſpace of an Hour together, exactly at Six every Evening.*

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